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# **Defense Intelligence Summary**

**8 October 1986**



**Defense Intelligence Agency**

**172**

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**DINSUM 195-86**

[REDACTED]

**USSR-AFGHANISTAN: Combat Activity. (U)**

[REDACTED] The Soviets have conducted more attacks on the Paghman area to ease pressure on Kabul.

[REDACTED] In a continuation of a summerlong effort to eliminate the security threat posed to the capital and the main highway north, Soviet forces launched more artillery strikes, aerial bombardments, and air assaults against the Paghman area. The Salang Road from Kabul northward has been closed to civilian traffic because of the fighting. On 3 October, following a predawn artillery and rocket barrage, at least 32 Mi-8/HIP and Mi-24/HIND helicopters assaulted Mujahedin positions in the lower ridges of the Paghman Range southwest of Shaka Dara. The operation was quite likely controlled from an An-26/CURL that served as an airborne command post. Close air support was provided by Mi-24/HIND gunships and fighter aircraft.



**COMMENT:** [REDACTED] Despite this latest Soviet attempt to dislodge entrenched insurgent forces from the strategic heights of the Paghman Range, Mujahedin units continue to operate and to strike targets on the highway and in the capital. Even during the air assault, Mujahedin gunners launched a rocket salvo against a group of armored vehicles southeast of Paghman. The Soviets, despite their best efforts, have failed to secure their LOC or the capital. [REDACTED]

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Prepared by: [REDACTED]

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